

REMARKS

Examiner Lieu is thanked for the courtesy extended during the Office Interview on January 12, 2006.

The Interview Summary is believed to accurately reflect what was discussed at the Interview.

Reconsideration of the rejection to Claims 1 and 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Knoedler et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,280,635), the rejection of Claims 2, 14 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Knoedler et al. and the rejection of Claim 17 over Knoedler et al. in view of Thompson (U.S. Patent Application No. 2005/0184877), is hereby requested. As indicated in the Interview Summary, it was agreed to amend Claim 1 to include the limitation "integral". Claim 1 has been so amended and is now considered in condition for allowance, and such is respectfully requested.

Claim 21 has been amended to correct a clerical error.

Claims 2-22 depend from Claim 1 and are considered to be in condition for allowance for at least the same reason as Claim 1 and for their own limitations as well, and such is respectfully requested.

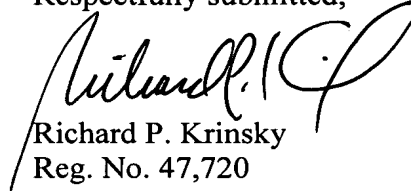
Reconsideration of the objection to the drawings is hereby requested. As indicated in the Interview Summary, the formal drawings filed on February 18, 2004 (not April 18, 2004 as stated in the Interview Summary) are accepted.

In view of all of the above, the Application is now in condition for allowance and such is hereby requested.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and

shortages in other fees be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg LLP, Deposit Account No. 10-0435 (20341/72631).

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure: Amendments to the Claims

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